

Message Text

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63

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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R 010908Z OCT 73

FM AMCOMSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8336

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

ENG/USLO PEKING 627

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, TW

SUBJ: PEKING ON OVERSEAS CHINESE TAIWAN

1. AS IT DID LAST YEAR, THE PRC STATE COUNCIL ON SEPT. 29
HELD A NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION FOR "COMPATRIOTS FROM TAIWAN
PROVINCE, HONG KONG AND MACAU AND OVERSEAS CHINESE AND
NATURALIZED CHINESE FROM FIVE CONTINENTS." SPEAKING ON THE
OCCASION, RECENTLY REHABILITATED VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING
REITERATED CHINA'S LIBERAL LINE ON THE QUESTION OF OVERSEAS
CHINESE. TENG REPEATED PRC MILITARY CHIEF YEH CHING-YING'S
DECLARATION OF LAST YEAR THAT THE PRC HOPES THE OVERSEAS
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CHINESE "WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE IN FRIENDSHIP WITH THE PEOPLES OF

THE COUNTRIES WHERE THEY ARE RESIDING,
LEARN MODESTY FROM THE STRONG POINTS OF THE PEOPLE
AND ABIDE BY THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THESE COUNTRIES." TENG
SAID THAT CHINA PROTECTS THE "PROPER RIGHT AND INTERESTS OF THE
OVERSEAS CHINESE" BUT HE WENT BEYOND YEH'S REMARKS IN STATING THAT
CHINA "APPROVED" OF THE DECISION OF THOSE OVERSEAS CHINESE WHO HAVE
ACQUIRED CITIZENSHIP OF THE COUNTRIES WHERE THEY ARE RESIDING.
TENG SAID THAT IN THIS WAY THEY WILL MAKE GREATER CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THEIR COUNTRIES." YEH HAD SAID ONLY THAT CHINA "HAD NO
OBJECTION"
TO THE CHOICE FOR CITIZENSHIP.

2. TENG ALSO MADE A CONCILIATORY STATEMENT ON TAIWAN WHICH WAS
PARTICULARLY NOTABLE IN LIGHT OF THE NATIONAL DAY JOINT EDITOR-
IAL'S OMISSION OF THE SUBJECT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MEMORY. TENG
SAID "OUR COMPATRIOTS IN TAIWAN CAN HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE ONLY BY
RETURNING TO THE EMBRACE OF THE MOTHERLAND." HE HOPED THAT "ALL
COMPATRIOTS WOULD MAKE THEIR OWN CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD LIBERATING
TAIWAN AND REUNIFYING THE MOTHERLAND". LAST YEAR, YEH WHILE
GENERALLY SPEAKING IN A RELATIVELY SOFT TONE ON THE SAME
SUBJECT, USED THE MORE THREATENING PHRASE: "WE CHINESE PEOPLE ARE
DETERMINED TO LIBERATE TAIWAN."
OSBORN

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